

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Masahiro MACHIDA et al.

Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Appl. No: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Confirmation No: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: December 16, 2003

Atty. Docket No: 31759-199753

For:

Customer No:

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guidelines pertaining to Information

Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 16, 2003



Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D

Registration No. 41,289

VENABLE

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Telefax: (202) 344-8300

+

+

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number 31759-199753

[illegible][illegible]

Date Considered

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

VENABLE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW